

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 06943 251223Z

46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 OMB-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SR-02

ORM-03 PC-04 NIC-01 DRC-01 /173 W
----- 055352

P R 251150Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5235

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6943

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, AF, PK

SUBJECT: AFGHAN-PAKISTANI RELATIONS: FURTHER DETERIORATION

REF: A) KABUL 6903; B) ISLAMABAD 8228

1. ON SEPTEMBER 24, ACTING DEPFONMIN WAHID KARIM HANDED
PAKISTANI AMNASSADOR ISPAHANI PROTEST NOTE CONCERNING PAK
PROVOCATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH RECENTLY DISCOVERED PLOT
AGAINST GOA.

2. AT RECEPTION HOSTED BY PAK MILITARY ATTACHE' (WHICH
AFGHANS BOYCOTTED) SEPTEMBER 24, CHARGE' DISCUSSED NOTE
AND DETERIORATING STATE PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS WITH PAK
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUL 06943 251223Z

AMBASSADOR AND PAK COUNSELOR BABAR, BOTH OF WHOM WERE

OBVIOUSLY HIGHLY PERTURBED AND SEEMINGLY HONESTLY BAFFLED BY AFGHAN CHARGE OF PAK INVOLVEMENT IN ALLEGED PLOT. BABAR SAID NOTE (IN DARI) WAS FIRST WRITTEN PROTEST EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED DURING HIS TWO YEARS IN KABUL. PREVIOUS PROTESTS HAD ALL BEEN ORAL. FIRST TRANSLATION HAD SEEMED RATHER "SOFT" SINCE TERMS "DEEP REGRET" AND "FRIENDLY COUNTRIES" WERE USED TWICE; HOWEVER, BABAR SAID FROM SECOND, MORE CAREFUL TRANSLATION THAT NOTE IS QUITE STIFF. AS OF LATE EVENING SEPTEMBER 24 PAK EMBASSY STILL UNDECIDED WHETHER ACCEPT OR REJECT NOTE. (BABAR WAS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND SAME DINNER PARTY AS CHARGE' LATER IN EVENING BUT FAILED TO APPEAR.)

3. BABAR APPEARED MORE WORRIED ABOUT SITUATION THATN HE HAS AT ANY OTHER TIME DURING STAY IN KABUL. HE SAID HE WAS NOW CONVINCED THAT KARIM AND OTHER AFGHAN OFFICIALS PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT PAK GOVERNMENT HAS INDEED BEEN PLOTTING AGAINST AFGHAN REGIME. BABAR QUOTED KARIM AS HAVING TOLD AMBASSADOR ISPAHANI THAT GOA HAD TAPES, LETTERS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS PROVING ITS CHARGES, ANY OF WHICH EVIDENCE HE OFFERED TO SHOW ISPAHANI. (OFFER WAS NOT ACCEPTED.) BABAR SPECULATED THIS EVIDENCE MAY RELATE TO RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL BORDER ACTIVITIES, WHILE STRONGLY DENYING ANY PAK OFFICIAL INVOLVEMENT WITH RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLOT. IN SO DOING, HE TACITLY ADMITTED PAK ACTIVITIES ON AFGHAN SIDE OF BORDER. (IT IS WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN ENGAGED FROM TIME TO TIME IN SOME CROSS-BORDER ACTIVITIES WHICH DESIGNED CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR OTHER).

4. PAK MILITARY ATTACHE CALLED ON DEFATT SEPTEMBER 25 TO DETAIL PAK EMBASSY CONCLUSION THAT INDIANS ARE BEHIND RECENT ANTI-PAK FLURRY, OFFERING THEORY THAT "EVIDENCE" AGAINST PAKS FABRICATED BY INDIANS AND PASSED TO GOA. (RECENT PRESENCE IN KABUL OF BLITZ EDITOR KARANJIA MAY BE MORE THAN COINCIDENTAL. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR RECENTLY TOTD CHARGE THAT KARANJIA HAD BEEN VERY ACTIVIE IN STIRRING AFGHAN POLITICAL CAULDRON.)

5. ALLEGED US INVOLVEMENT BEHIND SCENES IN "PLOT" NOW BEING GENERALLY RUMORED IN OFFICIAL AND DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES. GROWING ATMOSPHERE OF SUSPICION AFFECTING AFGHAN AND THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL EMPLOYEES OF VARIOUS PARTS OF US
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KABUL 06943 251223Z

MISSION WHO ARE INCREASINGLY NERVOUS IN FACE OF SCATTERED VAGUE HINTS FROM POLICE OR OTHER OFFICIALS THAT THEY ARE TOO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH AMERICANS.

6. WE FEAR THAT "AFTER SHOCKS" OF SEPTEMBER 20 ARRESTS WILL CONTINUE FOR SOME STIME AND THAT FURTHER DETERIATION IN AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS INEVITABLE. SOME COROLLARY IMPACT ON US RELATIONS HERE CANNOT EASILY BE AVOIDED. CERTAINLY THERE

IS STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT MOST IF NOT ALL OF "PLOT" STORY IS
CONTRIVED AS PLOY TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM GROWING DOMESTIC
TROUBLES. ALSO QUITE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT GOP HAS BEEN
DABBING MORE DEEPLY HERE THAN EVEN ITS EMBASSY AWARE. IN
EITHER CASE, PAKISTANI REACTION AS REPORTED PARA THREE, REF B,
WILL ONLY ADD OIL TO FLAMES.
LEWIS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INTERVENTION, PLOTS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KABUL06943
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS LEWIS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730913/aaaaajde.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) KABUL 6903; B) ISLAMABAD 8228
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFGHAN-PAKISTANI RELATIONS: FURTHER DETERIORATION
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, AF, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005